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"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Label No. EV108874824US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Klaus Bruchmann)	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>
Serial No.:	10/031,831)	Attorney Docket: BRU6144P0050US
International)	Group Art Unit:	
Filing Date:	August 2, 2000)	Not Yet Designated
For:	MULTIPOLAR CIRCUIT- PROTECTION ASSEMBLY FOR A COLLECTOR RAIL SYSTEM (As Amended By The Enclosed Preliminary Amendment))	Confirmation No. 5767
Examiner:	Not Yet Designated)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the art identified on the attached form PTO-1449 and other matters discussed below may be helpful to the Patent Office in its examination of the application identified above.

A copy of each of the identified patent documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

The documents disclosed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449 were cited in the corresponding International Search Report for PCT/EP00/07464.

The following comments are directed to the non-English language documents listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449.

A fused switch unit is known from G 88 02 457.1 U1, which comprises a manually operable load-break switch and a low-voltage (inaudible) capacity fuse-disconnector in a common insulating housing. Although this document discloses a fused switch unit which is comparable to a fused switch unit for a multipole fused switch arrangement as claimed in the preamble of claim 1, that is to say it discloses a similar element part, there is no information whatsoever, however, relating to a multipole fused switch arrangement per se, or to the technical problems associated with such a fused switch arrangement.

A fused switch unit is known from DE 197 34 235 A1, which discloses an interlocking slide with an interlocking web for interlocking a fuse holder in an associated chute.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of

Serial No. 10/031,831 - - - 3

endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

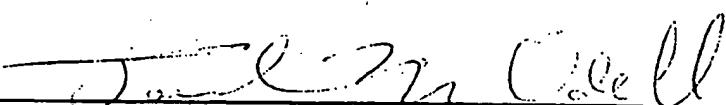
No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By


Paul M. Odell, Reg. No. 28,332

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Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511
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May 15, 2002



COPY

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Bruchmann) PATENT APPLICATION
Serial No.: 10/031,831) BRU6144P0050US
International) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Designated
Filing Date: August 2, 2000) Examiner: Not Yet Designated
For: MULTIPOLAR CIRCUIT-) Confirmation No. 5767
PROTECTION ASSEMBLY FOR)
A COLLECTOR RAIL SYSTEM)
(As Amended))

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant has the following seven (7) co-pending U.S. patent applications
relating to fuses:

1. 09/508,953
2. 09/600,097
3. 10/031,830
4. 10/031,831
5. 10/031,941
6. 10/031,943
7. U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP/00/11041 with an
international filing date of November 8, 2000 and U.S.
stage initial submission date by Express Mail of May 23,
2002.

The following additional comments are directed to the non-English language

DE 88 2 452.1 U1 and DE 197 34 235 A1 previously submitted with the first

Information Disclosure Statement filed May 15, 2002:

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DE 88 02 457.1 U1

The German Utility Model DE 88 02 457.1 U1 discloses a fused switch unit, which comprises a manually operable load-brake switch 1 and a low-voltage capacity fuse-disconnector 1 in a common insulator housing 3. The device comprises a channel 19 with contact parts 22, 22 for receiving a fuse link 20 and further a rotatably mounted swiveling lever 24, at which the fuse link 20 is detachably mounted. The swiveling lever 24 is mechanically connected to the manually operable load-brake 1 so that a contact bridge 15 of said load brake switch is brought into a contact position by moving the swiveling lever 24, before contact blades 23, 23 will disconnect from contact pieces 22, 22.

DE 197 34 235 A1

The German patent application DE 197 34 235 A1 discloses a fused switch unit with a holder 6 for a fuse link 8, which can be inserted into a housing of the fused switch unit. The unit comprises a switch 11, which is operable manually in a way that the fuse holder 6 can be only taken out of the housing when the switch 11 is in an off-position, as can be seen in FIG. 3, whereas in an on-position the holder 11 is locked, as can be seen in FIG. 1.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the

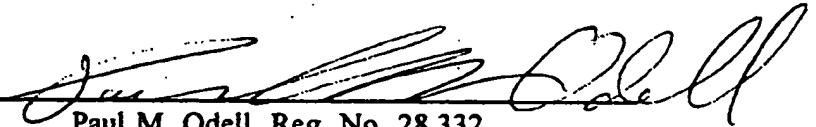
Serial No. 10/031,831 - - - 4

disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

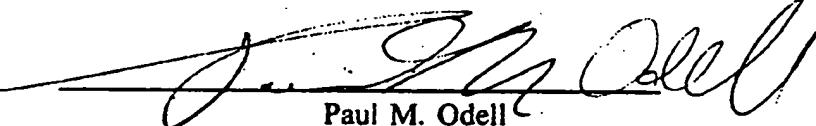
By


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 31, 2002.


Paul M. Odell



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Bruchmann) PATENT APPLICATION
Serial No.: 10/031,831) BRU6144P0050US
Filing Date: May 15, 2002) Group Art Unit: 2832
For: MULTIPOLAR CIRCUIT-) Examiner: Kyung S. Lee
PROTECTION ASSEMBLY FOR) Confirmation No. 5767
A COLLECTOR RAIL SYSTEM)

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

NEW PRIOR ART

The following comments are directed to the non-English language documents DE 42 07 156 C2 and DE Gebrauchsmuster G 94 03 039.1 U1.

The document DE 42 07 156 C2 discloses a fused switch arrangement with a fused switch unit which holds a fused link. See, especially, FIG. 3. This arrangement also has a mounting end contacting device for a bus bar. See, especially, FIG. 3. The device further includes a switching lever 9 as can be seen in FIG. 1.

The German Utility Model DE 94 03 039.1 U1 discloses a switching device with spaces 4 for several fuse links 7 which are placed in a pivotable cover 6 as can be seen in FIG. 1. The device includes a switching disc 8 with a switching disc shaft 8'. A bar 9 is arranged such that in the on-position of the switching disc 8, the cover 6 is blocked against an accidental pivoting or opening (see FIG. 2). However, in the off-position, the bar 9 permits the cover 6 to be opened as can be seen in FIG. 1.

Match and !

These documents were cited in an Official Communication from the German Patent Office on February 24, 2000 in the German patent application DE 199 27 017.6 from which priority is claimed in the above-captioned instant patent application.

**REQUEST FOR EXAMINER TO CONSIDER AND INDICATE
CONSIDERATION OF PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED ORIGINAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Enclosed is a copy of the original Information Disclosure Statement (but not copies of the cited prior art documents) filed May 15, 2002 and a copy of the First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (but not copies of the cited prior art documents) which was filed on June 7, 2002. The Notice of Allowability dated November 7, 2003 does not include an Examiner's acknowledgment of the original Information Disclosure Statement or of the First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. On November 17, 2003, the below-identified applicant's attorney conferred with Examiner Lee regarding the lack of indication in the Notice of Allowability papers that the original Information Disclosure Statement and the First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement had been considered by the Examiner. Examiner Lee told the attorney to merely resubmit copies of the two Information Disclosure Statements (but not copies of the cited prior art documents) and to request that the two Information Disclosure Statements be formally considered.

Applicant herewith formally requests that the original Information Disclosure Statement filed May 15, 2002 and that the First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed June 7, 2002 be formally considered by the Examiner and that such

consideration be acknowledged in an appropriate written document issued to the applicant.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Serial No. 10/031,831 - - - 4

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By _____


Paul M. Odell, Reg. No. 28,332

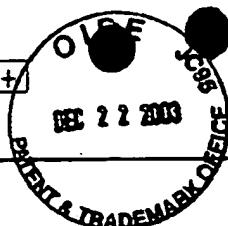
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Paul M. Odell

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

Application Number	10/031,831
Filing Date	May 15, 2002
First Named Inventor	Klaus Bruchmann
Group Art Unit	2832
Examiner Name	Kyung S. Lee
Attorney Docket No.	BRU6144P0050US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16, if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a checkmark here if English language Translation is attached.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

Comparable to Form PTO/SB/08A (08-09)

Approved for use through 10/31/2007. OMB 0611-0011

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0831-0031
Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<p>Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<p>Application Number</p> <p>10/031,831</p> <p>International Filing Date</p> <p>August 2, 2000</p> <p>First Named Inventor</p> <p>Klaus Bruchmann</p> <p>Confirmation No.</p> <p>5767</p> <p>Examiner Name</p> <p>Not Yet Designated</p>
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.
				BRU6144P00540US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP	0 418 206	A2 & A3	Henriksen	03/20/91		
		DE	197 34 235	A1	Bruchmann	02/11/99		
		DK	WO 86/06221	A1	Marot	10/23/86		
		DE	G 88 02 457.1	U1	Lindner GmbH	06/16/88		
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached *Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents*. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16, if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a checkmark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Comparable to Form I-705/508A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0631-0031

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				Application Number	10/031,831
				International Filing Date	August 2, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Klaus Bruchmann
				Confirmation No.	5767
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Designated
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	BRU6144P00540US

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.